

**Remarks**

Claims 25 and 26 are currently pending in the instant application. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that the subject matter of claim 25, a mutant herpesvirus DNA molecule having a nucleotide sequence according to SEQ.ID.NO. 1, is deemed to be free of the prior art and is, therefore, allowable.

Applicants have herein amended claim 25 to recite only a mutant herpesvirus DNA molecule having a nucleotide sequence according to SEQ.ID.NO. 1.

Furthermore, Applicants have herein canceled non-elected claim 26.

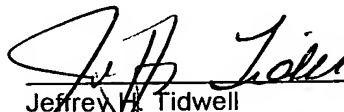
Applicants herein expressly reserve the right to prosecute claims to the subject matter canceled in claims 25 and 26 in divisional or continuation applications.

Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of the claims remaining herein.

Last, Applicants hereby petition for any required extension of time. Please charge all required fees to Deposit Account No. 500329.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 12, 2005

  
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